REMARKS

In regard to the Examiner's rejection of claims 13, 15 and 19-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minotti in view of either Arnold or Hanes et al., and either O'Donnell or Evans et al., the rejection of claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minotti in view of either Arnold or Hanes et al., and either O'Donnell or Evans et al., in further view of either Knopp et al., or Diaz, the rejection of claims 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minotti in view of either Arnold or Hanes et al., and either O'Donnell or Evans et al., in further view of Nash and the objection of claim 18 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, Applicant has amended claim 13 to include the limitations of allowed claim 18 and intervening claim 17. This is without prejudice and is strictly for the purpose of obtaining a Notice of Allowance

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance, therefore an early notice to this effect is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing was deposited with the United States Postal Service, First Class Postage prepaid, addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, this 17th day of May, 2005.

Peter Loffler